



When Time Stopped: A Memoir of My Father's War and What Remains

Ariana Neumann

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In this remarkably moving memoir Ariana Neumann dives into the secrets of her father's past: years spent hiding in plain sight in war-torn Berlin, the annihilation of dozens of family members in the Holocaust, and the courageous choice to build anew.

In 1941, the first Neumann family member was taken by the Nazis, arrested in German-occupied Czechoslovakia for bathing in a stretch of river forbidden to Jews. He was transported to Auschwitz. Eighteen days later his prisoner number was entered into the morgue book.

Of thirty-four Neumann family members, twenty-five were murdered by the Nazis. One of the survivors was Hans Neumann, who, to escape the German death net, traveled to Berlin and hid in plain sight under the Gestapo's eyes. What Hans experienced was so unspeakable that, when he built an industrial empire in Venezuela, he couldn't bring himself to talk about it. All his daughter Ariana knew was that something terrible had happened.

When Hans died, he left Ariana a small box filled with letters, diary entries, and other memorabilia. Ten years later Ariana finally summoned the courage to have the letters translated, and she began reading. What she discovered launched her on a worldwide search that would deliver indelible portraits of a family loving, finding meaning, and trying to survive amid the worst that can be imagined.

When Time Stopped is an unputdownable detective story and an epic family memoir, spanning nearly ninety years and crossing oceans. Neumann brings each relative to vivid life. In uncovering her father's story after all these years, she discovers nuance and depth to her own history and liberates poignant and thought-provoking truths about the threads of humanity that connect us all.

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Karen says

Adriana Neumann has written the amazing history of her father Hans Neumann and what his family endured during WWII.

Ariana grew up in Venezuela daughter of Hans, a wealthy industrialist, and didn't even know about her father's history.

When her father died, she was left a box with all sorts of documents and a picture I.D. of her father, that had a little picture of Hitler on it below his.

From here, she did all the investigating to find out her father's history.. unbelievable!!

Hans and his family were Jews living in Czechoslovakia, they had their own paint company, a country home, were doing well until the Nazi's took over.

This is so different from other stories as we see the lengths the people had to go through to keep out of sight of the Nazi's .. what a story!

Thank you to my Goodreads friend Tammy for bringing this book to my attention!

Thank you to Scribner through Netgalley for this ARC

Here is a little video by Ariana

<https://youtu.be/IKdmasdnpvE>

Angela M says

Today, January 27th is International Holocaust Remembrance Day, marking the day 75 years ago when Auschwitz-Birkenau was liberated. I say this every time I read a book on the Holocaust - it is imperative that we think about and remember those who perished at the hands of such absolutely evil people and also remember those who survived, but not only today. Their stories are of the utmost importance and we have to keep listening to and reading them and hearing them because we can't let this happen again. There are so few survivors left, so others will have to carry the torch to tell and tell, again and again.

Ariana Neumann writes so eloquently of her father's past, a hidden past too painful for him to relive, to talk about, but eventually revealed. She writes of her family, many of whom perished at the hands of the Nazis and of those who survived. She reminisces about how as a little girl growing up in Venezuela, she finds a photograph of her father in a box, an identity card with his picture and a stamp of Hitler. While this was the beginning of her awareness that her father had kept his past from her, it wasn't until many years later when at his death, he leaves her a box of letters and photos, that she realized that there was so much more to know. There was everything to know about her father and his family who suffered at the hand of the Nazis in their homeland in Czechoslovakia before he came to Venezuela. It was several years later that she was able to bring herself to have the letters translated and years before she could bring herself to read them the memoir he had begun writing. She generously shares them with us.

She begins her journey to that past, reaching out to cousins and family friends, piecing together what they knew, tracing the lives of her grandparents in Terezin (<https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/There...>), piecing together her father's story. Neumann travels to the places where her father did, looking for remnants of her grandparents' lives, for the man who helped save her father. It's gut wrenching as all Holocaust stories are, but it's filled with love for her father, filled with the love within the family she never knew. In her heartfelt dedication, Ariana Neumann says "This book is dedicated to the memory of those who could not tell their stories. "We must keep reading the stories that others tell of them. This is one of those books.

I received an advanced copy of this book from Scribner through NetGalley and Edelweiss.

Beata says

The search to discover the past that was never fully mentioned makes this memoir an interesting read. I guess this was the first time I had read about the Jews in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia and I admit there were some issues which I found rather surprising when compared with the plight of the Jews in occupied Poland. This was not my first read on the Holocaust, however, it was not that shocking or compelling in comparison with other books.

Ms Neumann's love for her father and family is obvious and she is happy and lucky to have found descendants after years of thorough search. Her perseverance to find out what her family went through is admirable.

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From reader reviews:

Richard Benson:

Do you have favorite book? In case you have, what is your favorite's book? Publication is very important thing for us to understand everything in the world. Each publication has different aim as well as goal; it means that book has different type. Some people sense enjoy to spend their time for you to read a book. These are reading whatever they consider because their hobby is reading a book. What about the person who don't like looking at a book? Sometime, particular person feel need book after they found difficult problem or perhaps exercise. Well, probably you will need this When Time Stopped: A Memoir of My Father's War and What Remains.

Jeremy Brown:

This When Time Stopped: A Memoir of My Father's War and What Remains book is simply not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you have by reading this book is usually information inside this guide incredible fresh, you will get info which is getting deeper a person read a lot of information you will get. This When Time Stopped: A Memoir of My Father's War and What Remains without we know teach the one who looking at it become critical in considering and analyzing. Don't be worry When Time Stopped: A Memoir of My Father's War and What Remains can bring once you are and not make your bag space or bookshelves' become full because you can have it in the lovely laptop even mobile phone. This When Time Stopped: A Memoir of My Father's War and What Remains having very good arrangement in word as well as layout, so you will not sense uninterested in reading.

Elisa Hall:

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